

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 2. Changes are shown with ~~strikethroughs~~ for deleted matter and underlines for added matter. A complete listing of the claims with proper claim identifies is set forth below.

1. (Original) A thermoplastic elastomer composition, comprising an acrylic block copolymer (A) which comprises a methacrylic polymer block (a) and an acrylic polymer block (b), wherein at least one of polymer blocks among the methacrylic polymer block (a) and the acrylic polymer block (b) has a functional group (X), and a compound (B) containing at least 1.1 or more of functional groups (Y) in one molecule.

2. (Currently Amended) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1, wherein the functional group (X) is at least one kind of functional groups selected from an acid anhydride group, a carboxyl ~~carbonyl~~-group, a hydroxyl group and an epoxy group.

3. (Original) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1 or 2, wherein the functional group (Y) is at least one kind of functional groups selected from an epoxy group, a carboxyl group, a hydroxyl group, an amino group, an acid anhydride group and an oxazoline group.

4. (Original) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1, wherein the functional group (X) is an acid anhydride group and/or a carboxyl group, and the functional group (Y) is an epoxy group.

5. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1, wherein a boiling point of the compound (B) is at least 200°C.

6. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1, wherein the compound (B) is a polymer having a weight average molecular weight of 50,000 or less.

7. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1, wherein the acrylic block copolymer (A) comprises 10 to 60 % by weight of the methacrylic polymer block (a) in which a methacrylic polymer is the main component and 90 to 40 % by weight of the acrylic polymer block (b) in which the acrylic polymer is the main component.

8. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1, wherein the acrylic block copolymer (b) comprises 50 to 100 % by weight of at least one monomer selected from the group consisting of n-butyl acrylate, ethyl acrylate and 2-methoxyethyl acrylate and 50 to 0 % by weight of other acrylate and/or other vinyl monomer copolymerizable with these monomers.

9. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1, wherein the number average molecular weight of the acrylic block copolymer (A) measured by gel permeation chromatography is 30,000 to 200,000.

10. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1, wherein a ratio (M_w/M_n) of the weight average molecular weight (M_w) to the number average molecular weight (M_n) measured by gel permeation chromatography of the acrylic block copolymer (A) is 1.8 or less.

11. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1, wherein the acrylic block copolymer (A) is a block copolymer produced by atom transfer radical polymerization.

12. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1, wherein a glass transition temperature of the methacrylic polymer block (a) is 24 to 130°C.

13. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1, wherein 5 to 200 parts by weight of a filler is further added based on 100 parts by weight of the acrylic block copolymer (A).

14. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic elastomer composition of Claim 1, wherein 0.1 to 20 parts by weight of a lubricant is further added based on 100 parts by weight of the acrylic block copolymer (A).

15. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic elastomer composition for powder slash molding, comprising the composition of Claim 1.

16. (Previously Presented) A molded article, which is obtained by powder slash molding the composition of Claim 1.

17. (Previously Presented) A superficial skin for an automobile interior, which is obtained by powder slash molding the composition of Claim 1.